SBIR Technical Questions and Answers

December 10, 2003

1. We are interested in knowing the status of the validation issue for the Commons Accounts and DUNS Numbers. Has NIH confirmed that they will validate only the PI, and not the rest of the key personnel on the grant application? When or will the service provider have access to the Commons for validation before submission, etc.

Answers

Commons Accounts—For the next pilot phase, a Commons account will only be required for the PI. It may still be submitted for other key personnel but will not be required. For whomever a Commons User ID is supplied, there will be fairly strict validation to ensure that the name/degree/contact information being submitted agrees with that person's Commons PPF. Instructions and templates will be posted by December 15 on the eRA Web site.

DUNS Numbers—We are changing the Key Personnel collection requirements so that only the organization name needs to be supplied in the data stream, not the DUNS. The organization name will replace DUNS as the data collection requirement for *all* key personnel, including the PI.

When or will the service provider have access to the Commons for validation before submission?—The plan is to have this available for the next pilot phase. We will send/post a list of the Commons data elements that the NIH Web service will provide by December 12.